

Tactran FQP Steering Group

Notes of Meeting held at Tactran office on Friday 4 May 2012

Present:	Eric Guthrie (EG)	Tactran (Chair)
	Peter Noad (PN)	Scottish Enterprise
	Phil Flanders (PF)	Road Haulage Association
	John Paterson (JP)	Montrose Port Authority
	Kirsty Steven (KS)	Perth & Kinross Council
	Tony Maric (TM)	Perth & Kinross Council
	John Maxwell (JM)	Transport Scotland
	Neil Prentice (NP)	Angus Council
	Gavin Roser (GR)	Tactran Board Member
	Michael Cairns (MC)	Tactran
Apologies:	Chris MacRae	Freight Transport Association (FTA)
	Claire Glaister	Stirling & Tayside Timber Transport Group
	Daniel Muir	Highland Spring
	Roland Stiven	CONFOR
	Ewan Gourlay	Dundee City Council
	Tom Brydone	Perth & Kinross Council
	Jonathan Padmore	Stirling Council
	Matt North	Forth Ports Authority

1. Notes of previous meeting – 14 September 2010

Notes were agreed. MC thanked JP for hosting the previous meeting and the tour of the Port of Montrose.

MC commented that David Spaven, Scottish Representative of the Rail Freight Group (RFG), had been invited to the meeting. David had replied that as he was employed by RFG for only one day per month he would be unable to attend but would be able to give a presentation to a future meeting on rail freight. EG suggested that this offer be taken up at a suitable time.

2. Initiatives Update

(i) Freight Consolidation Centre

MC gave an update on the Perth Freight Consolidation Centre Trial. The initial bid for EU INTERREG funding had been turned down but a revised bid was being submitted in mid-May based on the provision of more detail, a greater emphasis on transnational working and a focus on “urban and peri-urban last mile logistics”. An announcement from the EU is expected on 15 September.

MC commented that Dundee City Council (DCC) is involved in an EU Intelligent Energy Europe project titled **EN**ergy efficiency in **City LO**gistics **S**ervices for small and mid-sized **EU**ropean Historic Towns. This is a 30 month project, though no start date had been agreed yet. The objectives include assessing the applicability of sustainable urban logistics particularly in small and mid-sized historic towns. Three pilot sites are proposed in Lucca (It), Den Bosch (NL) and Trondheim (Nor) with nine follower cities including Dundee. The follower cities are expected to develop sustainable urban logistics plans based on experience in the pilot cities and to implement at least two soft measures. Tactran intends to support DCC in this project subject to satisfying EU regulations. This would complement the Perth Consolidation Centre as the pilot

schemes would be considering dedicated pick and delivery points for parcels, logistic services for hotels and use of electric trolleys in city centres.

(ii) Dundee Port Access

EG commented that work was in progress on improvements to road access to the port, with completion programmed for summer 2012.

(iii) South Montrose Development Masterplan

NP gave an update on design work for improved road access to GSK and properties on the north side of the river. JP commented that there are issues with property owners and listed buildings that are likely to cause delays to regeneration. EG suggested that the FQP should give support to the Masterplan proposals – this was agreed.

(iv) Crianlarich Timber Railhead

MC indicated that the consultant's study was still continuing but in general terms the prospects for the railhead did not appear promising.

(v) Highland Spring rail connection

MC commented that Daniel Muir had provided an update on a trial scheme. This would be operated by JG Russell from the former goods yard at Blackford Station. Network Rail infrastructure was ready and quotes had been received from a freight train operator. It was hoped that a trial train service to Coatbridge would operate in the next month.

(vi) Lorry routing map

MC indicated that the lorry routing map was being finalised and would be made available via the tactranconnect website within the next month. The map would be circulated to Steering Group members for comment. TM expressed disappointment with Forth Valley GIS in production of the map.

ACTION: Tactran to circulate Lorry Route Map for comment

3. Freight Action Plan 2012/13

EG indicated that Tactran Board had approved a provisional revenue budget for 2012/3, including an allocation of £5,000 for the FQP to complete work on the Lorry Route Map. It is intended to develop a new Freight Action Plan for 2012/3 based on last year's. The proposed actions are:

- consideration of overnight lorry parking being included in Tactran's Park & Ride proposals
- Perth Freight Consolidation Centre
- timber transport - complete the study of the Crianlarich Lower rail terminal and continuing membership of Stirling and Tayside Timber Transport Group (S&TTTG)
- support of port development and rail connections would continue
- further development of the regional freight map.

EG indicated that the issue of incorporating overnight lorry parking in current Park & Ride proposals was being considered on a project by project basis. Planning and adjacent public concerns had been raised in relation to the sites being progressed at Dundee West and Perth

East. GR suggested that a Park & Ride/lorry parking/consolidation centre template should be produced to address these concerns.

ACTION Tactran to consider and report back to next meeting.

EG confirmed that Tactran has made a contribution of £2,500 to the S&TTTG Regional Officer post for the next two years.

EG confirmed that following clarification of Tactran's role, the ENCLOSE project would be added to the Action Plan. GR suggested that this could be expanded to form a sustainable freight strategy for the region.

4. DfT HGV Road User Charging Consultation

MC commented that Tactran had coordinated a joint RTP response to the DfT HGV road user charging consultation. The response was broadly supportive of the proposals.

5. ScotFLAG Overnight Lorry Parking

MC referred to the ScotFLAG Overnight Lorry Parking Report which recommended that RTPs engage with local authorities to give HGVs access to suitable coach and car parking facilities. One such car and coach park had been identified in the Tactran region at South Inch in Perth. PF agreed and noted that this was on the site of a former truckstop. The Group agreed that Tactran should write on their behalf requesting that PKC remove the restriction on HGVs using the South Inch car park, Perth.

ACTION Tactran to write to PKC requesting HGVs be permitted to use South Inch car park, Perth

6. Weather related trunk road closures – lorry parking arrangements

MC commented that Stirling Council had encountered problems with lorry parking when the M9 and estuarial bridges had been closed because of high winds. These fell outwith the normal remit of winter weather related emergency planning. PF suggested that this should be referred to ScotFLAG for national consideration.

ACTION Tactran to raise issue at next ScotFLAG meeting

7. AOB

MC informed the Group of:

- the DfT low carbon truck demonstration trial
- the DCC Low Emission Charter that will address diesel engine vehicles
- a letter received from M Symon regarding the narrowness of laybys on the A9.

It was agreed that Tactran would submit a supplementary response to the Transport Scotland A9 dualling consultation, copied to ScotFLAG and M Symon, on behalf of the Group requesting that consideration be given to review the design standards for laybys.

TM gave an update on air quality related traffic schemes in Perth, comprising UTMC upgrade, including car park guidance, and implementation of a trial "mote" traffic management system in Atholl Street that intervenes in traffic signal control when air pollution exceeds defined threshold values.

JM updated the Group on proposals for Control Period 5 covering 2014-19 which include a Rail Freight Fund. If accepted this would provide support for network changes to capacity, etc. for freight trains.

ACTION Tactran to write to Transport Scotland requesting a review of layby design standards as part of the A9 dualling proposals

8. Date of next meeting

It was agreed that a meeting should be held in October 2012. PN offered to host it to allow the Group to view Dundee waterfront plans.

ACTION Tactran to agree with PN and circulate possible dates for the next meeting.